

Edna St. Vincent Millay Dies; Pulitzer Prize-Winning Poet

**Body Found at Foot of
Stairs After She Had
Worked Through Night**

Cut if you will, with sleep's dull
knife
Each day to half its length, my
friend
The years that time takes off my
life
He'll take off from the other end.
—Edna St. Vincent Millay

AUSTERLITZ, N. Y. —(U.P.)— A coroner's report said today that Pulitzer prize-winning Poet Edna St. Vincent Millay died of a heart attack after writing poetry all night with the same disregard for sleep that she showed in her verses.

Coroner Lawrence J. Andrews said the frail, 58-year-old poet apparently suffered coronary occlusion as she started upstairs to bed Thursday at dawn. Her body was found crumpled at the foot of the staircase in her Berkshire Hills farm home Thursday afternoon by a caretaker.

The lights were on and Miss Millay's desk and the living room floor were cluttered with copies of a group of new poems which were to be included in a forthcoming collection of her works. There was an ash tray in Miss Millay's hand.

Her physician said she had been dead six or eight hours.

Miss Millay was generally acclaimed by critics as America's leading women poet. They often placed her with Sappho and Elizabeth Barrett Browning in the top

cities listed against us so a few more won't make any difference."

Capt. Locke said that during the death march Americans "died like flies from starvation, cold, pneumonia and dysentery."

Strafed By U.S. Plane

Seventeen in the group were wounded when an American plane strafed their column, obviously mistaking them for Reds.

They said others of the group were marched north as the United Nations forces approached P'vong-



EDNA ST. VINCENT MILLAY

rank of women poets in world history.

Although Miss Millay had not published a volume of verse since 1943, the position she established for herself when she won the Pulitzer prize with "The Harp Weaver" in 1923 never was challenged. She was adept at topical writing. Her "Murder of Lidice" vividly described Nazi entrance into a Polish village. Her book "There Are No Islands Any More" mirrored the world's trouble of World War II.

Other works include: The libretto of one of the few American grand operas, "The King's Henchman," composed by Deems Taylor and produced in 1927; "Conversation at Midnight," 1937; "A Few Figs from Thistles," 1921; "The Buck in the Snow," 1928; "Wine From These Grapes," 1934; "Huntsman, What Quarry?," 1939.

Miss Millay was born in Rockland, Me., and won acclaim at the age of 25 with her first major poem, "Renascence," which she began when she was 18.

Her husband, Eugene Jan Boissevain, a New York importer, died last year.